

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CURACA 00176 291410Z

66

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /121 W
----- 010067

R 291230Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TG RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1768

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

COMCARIBSEAFRON ROOSEVELT RDS PR

AVAMBASSY CARACAS 0247

AMCOCSUL MARTINIQUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CURACAO 0176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NA, PGOV, MARR, PINT

SUBJECT: COMMANDER DUTCH NAVAL FORCES GETS COOL RECEPTION

1. VICE ADMIRAL E. ROEST, COMMANDER DUTCH NAVAL FORCES AND GENERAL A.C. LAMERS, COMMANDER DUTCH MARINE FORCES ARRIVED IN CURACAO ON MARCH 25TH OSTENSIBLE FOR AN INSPECTION OF THE DUTCH NAVAL AND MARINE FORCES ON CURACAO AND ARUBA. THE REAL PURPOSE OF THE MISSION WAS TO BRING NEWS OF A 20 PERCENT CUT IN DUTCH NAVAL FORCES TO BE PHASED OVER A PERIOD OF SEVERAL YEARS.

2. THEY REQUESTED A VISIT WITH PRIME MINISTER JUANCHO M.G. EVERTSZ TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. HE FORTHRIGHTLY REFUSED TO SEE THEM, PUBLICLY STATING IN HEADLINE NEWS RELEASES THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD HE DISCUSS TROOP REDUCTION OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES WITH RELATIVELY QTE JUNIOR OFFICERS UNQTE. HE ASSERTED THAT THIS WAS MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE TOP LEVEL OF THE REALM COMMISSION AMONG THE THREE GOVERNMENTS OF HOLLAND,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CURACA 00176 291410Z

SURINAM AND THE NA. GOVERNOR B.M. LEITO ALSO REFUSED

TO SEE OR DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE ADMIRAL, BUT MADE NO PUBLIC COMMENT ON HIS REFUSAL.

3. COMMODORE F.B. HAMILTON, COMMANDING OFFICER OF DUTCH FORCES IN THE NA, WAS PUT IN THE EMBARRASSING POSITION OF HAVING TO ANSWER TO HIS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND PREPARE FOR THE REDUCTION OF FORCES, WHILE HIS SYMPATHIES LIE WITH THE NA. COMMODORE HAMILTON IS DUE TO RETIRE IN JULY OF THIS YEAR SO APPARENTLY HE CAN AFFORD TO STATE HIS POSITION CLEARLY. HE FIRMLY BELIEVES IT TO BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF BOTH HOLLAND AND THE NA TO RETAIN THE COMPLEMENT OF DUTCH FORCES IN THE NA INDEFINITELY AT LEAST AT THEIR PRESENT LEVELS. ADMIRAL ROEST, HOWEVER, WAS OBVIOUSLY UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM THE GON TO REDUCE THE FORCES WITH A POSSIBLE VIEW OF EVENTUALLY PHASING OUT DUTCH MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE NA.

4. ALTHOUGH A LARGE RECEPTION HAD BEEN PLANNED IN HIS HONOR, VICE ADMIRAL ROEST DID NOT REMAIN FOR IT, BUT DEPARTED FOR HOLLAND LEAVING ONLY MARINE GENERAL LAMARU TO CGPE. GENERAL LAMERS WAS OBVIOUSLY EMBARRASSED AT HIS AWKWARD PROMOTION TO GUEST OF HONOR AT A RECEPTION BOYCOTTED BY BOTH PRIME MINISTER AVERTSZ AND GOVERNOR LEITO.

5. COMMENT: LOCAL NEWS RELEASES FEETURAJ UENSATIGNAL HAD STORIES OF THE PERSONAL SNUB TO THE ADMIRAL FROM P.M. EVERTSZ. THERE WAS OF COURSE, NO PERSONAL ANIMOSITY INVOLVED; EVERTSZ AND OTHER NA OFFICIALS ARE STRONGLY COMMITTED TO POSTPONEMENT OF NA INDEPENDENCE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND WILL MAKE EVERY CONCEIVABLE EFFORT TO MAINTAIN HEAVY DUTCH INVOLVEMENT IN ANTILLEAN AFFAIRS. CONGEN IS OF THE OPINION THE ALLEGED SNUB IS MERELY A LOGICAL CONTINUATION OF THIS POLICY.
LOFTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, INDEPENDENCE, MILITARY VISITS, TROOP REDUCTIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CURACA00176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740069-0851
From: CURACAO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974035/aaaaadzo.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <31 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMANDER DUTCH NAVAL FORCES GETS COOL RECEPTION
TAGS: PGOV, MARR, PINT, NA, NL, (LAMERS, A C)
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005